



**National
Transportation
Safety Board**

The impact of hands-free cell phone use



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Our mission:
Prevent Accidents
Reduce Injuries
Save Lives



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2016 NTSB Most Wanted List

- Disconnect from Deadly Distractions
- Reduce Fatigue-Related Accidents
- Improve Rail Transit Safety Oversight
- Promote Collision Avoidance Technologies in Highway Vehicles
- Strengthen Occupant Protection
- Prevent Loss of Control in General Aviation
- Promote Completion of Rail Safety Initiatives
- End Substance Impairment in Transportation
- Require Medical Fitness for Duty
- Expand use of Recorders to Enhance Transportation Safety



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Portable Electronic Devices



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2015 Multi-modal Roundtable Discussion on Distractions



- 1) Science of Distraction
- 2) Technology and Engineering
- 3) Education, Legislation & Enforcement
- 4) Corporate Policy & Regulation
- 5) Future Endeavors/Challenges



Mosby, MO. August 26, 2011 - 4 Fatalities -



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Philadelphia, PA. July 7, 2010

- 2 Fatalities -



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Chatsworth, CA. Sept 12, 2008

- 25 fatalities -



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Munfordville, KY. March 26, 2010

- 11 Fatalities -



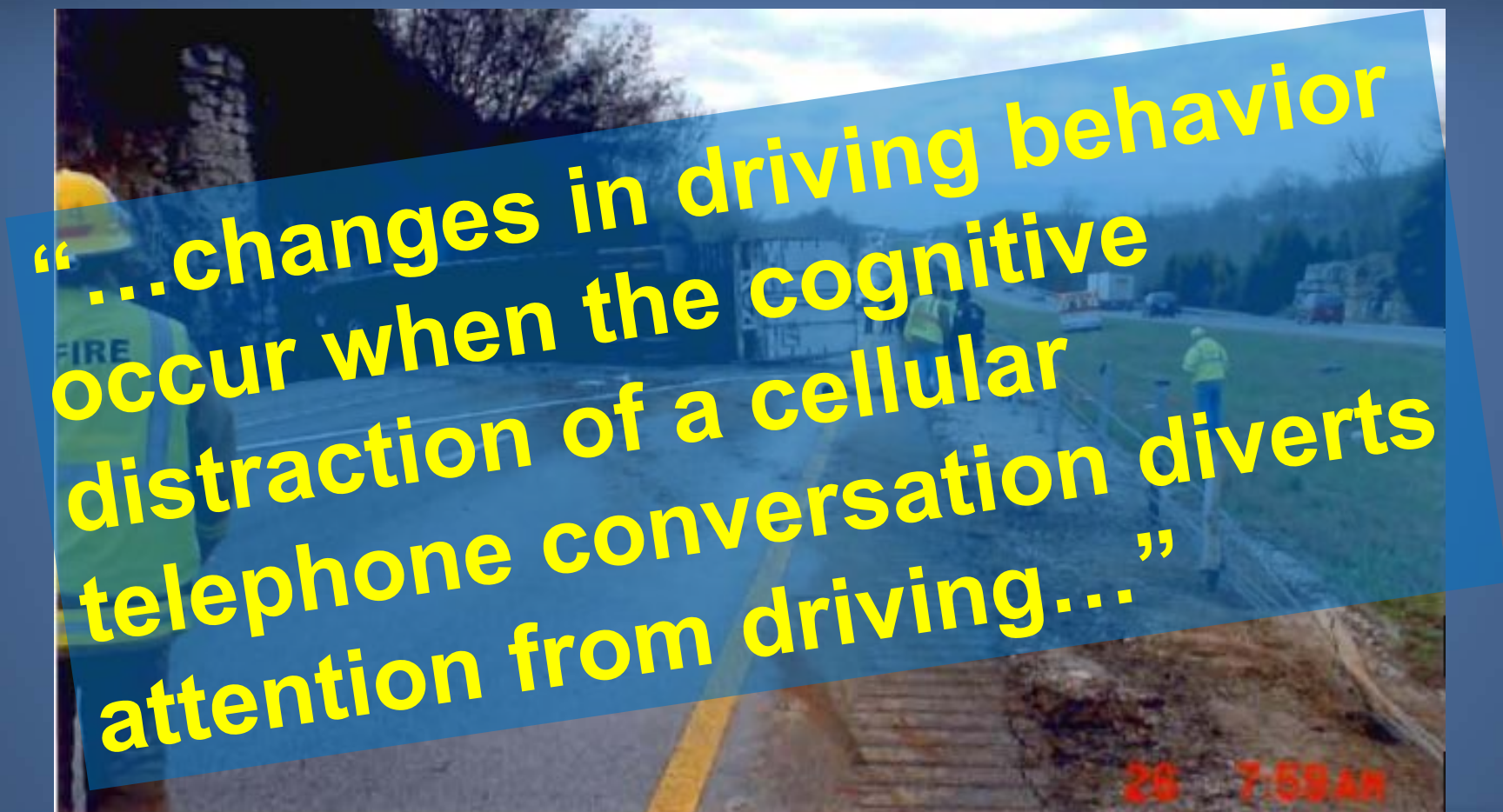
Munfordville, KY - March 2010

“...he was distracted from the driving task by the use of his cellular telephone at the time of the accident...”



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Munfordville, KY - March 2010



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Munfordville, KY - March 2010



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Gray Summit, MO. Aug 5, 2010

- 2 Fatalities -




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GMC Sierra Pickup Driver

- Sent and received 11 text messages in the 11 minutes prior to crash.
- Messages centered on activities from the previous night and on their plans for that evening.
- No braking prior to crash.





“...the GMC pickup driver was most likely distracted from the driving task by a text messaging conversation...”



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Recommendation to the states to ban the nonemergency use of PEDs for all drivers



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COGNITIVE DISTRACTION

Is this a myth?



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The Hands-Free Myth

- Many people believe that talking hands-free is safer than hand-held devices.
- Overwhelming data show there is no significant difference in crash risk.
- Laws and policies that only prohibit hand-held devices are perpetuating this myth.
 - Quite simply, they are sending the wrong message.



Alexandria, VA. Nov. 14, 2004

- 0 fatalities -



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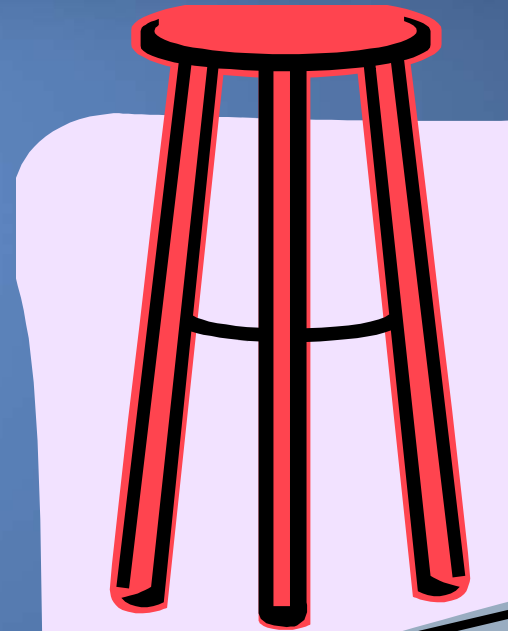
“The bus driver’s cellular telephone conversation at the time of the accident diverted his attention from driving...”



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What is needed

- Enforceable state laws
- High visibility enforcement
- Education



But...

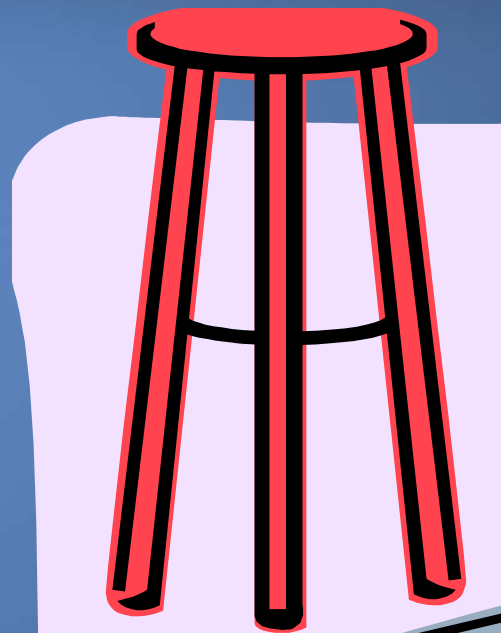
- Do you have to wait for laws to do the right thing in your organization?



What is needed for organizations?

A commitment to do the right thing

- Top-level management buy-in and support
- Effective policies
- Education and buy-in of employees



“Don't be afraid of unpopular positions, of driving upstream. All progress has resulted from people who took unpopular positions.”

- *Adlai E. Stevenson*



The Moral Compass



Do the Right Thing



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How can NTSB help?



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